

MR. SPEAKER.—I request all the Members to rise and observe silence for two minutes as a mark of respect for the departed soul.

The House adjourned at Thirty Four Minutes past One of the Clock.

The House reassembled at Thirty Minutes past Five of the Clock.

(MR. SPEAKER IN THE CHAIR)

ANNOUNCEMENT

MR. SPEAKER.—I very much regret the circumstances under which the House was adjourned at about 1-45 P.M. to-day. After the adjournment of the House, it was announced over the A.I.R. that the earlier news conveying the demise of Sri Jayaprakash Narayanji is not correct. This news is most comforting to one and all, although his condition is stated to be still bad. I hope the House will join me in offering our gratitude to the Almighty for saving a most valuable life. We shall also pray that Loknayak Sri Jayaprakash Narayanji will recover from his illness and his valuable guidance will be available to the country for many more years to come.

Grant of D. A. to the Government Employees

SRI D. DEVARAJ URS.—Sir, now the Finance Minister will make a statement regarding D.A. to Government Employees.

SRI S. R. BOMMAI.—Not now. Let him make it tomorrow.

SRI D. DEVARAJ URS.—They are anxiously waiting for it. After all, the news is not bad. So, he can make a statement. I request that permission may be given to him to make a statement.

Then, Sir, whatever we had spoken before adjournment may not go on record.

MR. SPEAKER.—Yes.

SRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA.—If it is expunged and the Chair gives a ruling that it should not be published, then the Press will not publish it.

SRI D. DEVARAJ URS.—It should not be published. That is not correct also.

SRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA.—We may appeal to the Press People not to publish it.

SRI S.R. BOMMAI.—We are correcting the records. No question of expunction will arise.

SRI D. DEVARAJ URS.—Whatever we had spoken earlier should not go to the Press.

SRI S.R. BOMMAL.—We are correcting the genuine mistake that was committed.

MR. SPEAKER.—Now, the Finance Minister will make a statement.

Statement by Shri S.M. Yahya, Minister for Finance :

re : Grant of D.A. to the Government Employees

SRI S. M. YAHYA.—Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Karnataka State Government Employees' Association have raised certain demands relating to grant of relief by way of dearness allowance instead of hardship allowance on a more liberalised formula. They have also been pressing Government for liberalisation of House Rent Allowance and City Compensatory Allowance, as also for implementing the recommendations of the Official Pay Committee.

2. We have always had very good and harmonious relations with our employees. We want these to continue in order that our employees may continue to work with dedication and efficiency as they have always done. At the same time, what we can do for them also depends on our ability to provide the requisite funds.

3. We have decided to change the name from 'Hardship Allowance' to 'Dearness Allowance' and to give one instalment on the existing formula with effect from 1st February 1979. The demand for an additional instalment of D.A and other demands relating to HRA, CCA, liberalised formula for DA and the recommendation of Official Pay Committee will be discussed with the Association after the budget session.

4. The expenditure on the instalment now being granted will be Rs. 4.74 crores for Government employees in a full year.

MR. SPEAKER.—Now, the House stands adjourned to meet again at 1-00 P.M. tomorrow.

The House adjourned at Forty five minutes past Five of the clock to meet again at One of the Clock on Friday the 23rd March 1979.